

The Office has rejected claims 3-4, 15-16, 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gao in view of US Patent No. 6,263,351 to Wolfe et al. (Wolfe). For the reasons noted above, Gao is not available as prior art. Because Wolfe fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of the presently claimed invention (and the PTO has not demonstrated that Wolfe does so), the rejection of claims 3-4, 15-16, 27-28 for obviousness over Gao in view of Wolfe is improper and should be withdrawn.

The Office has rejected claims 10, 12, 22, 24, 34, 36, 46-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gao in view of US Patent No. 5,920,866 to Crim et al. (Crim). For the reasons noted above, Gao is not available as prior art. Because Crim fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of the presently claimed invention (and the PTO has not demonstrated that Crim does so), the rejection of claims 10, 12, 22, 24, 34, 36, 46-48 for obviousness over Gao in view of Crim is improper and should be withdrawn.

The Office has rejected claims 11, 23, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gao et al. in view of US Patent No. 5,859,972 to Subramaniam et al. (Subramaniam). For the reasons noted above, Gao is not available as prior art. Because Subramaniam fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of the presently claimed invention (and the PTO has not demonstrated that Subramaniam does so), the rejection of claims 11, 23, and 35 for obviousness over Gao in view of Subramaniam is improper and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness over Jones in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,626,134 to Zuckerman et al. ("Zuckerman") is respectfully traversed. For the reasons noted above, Gao is not available as prior art. Because Zuckerman fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of the presently claimed invention (and the PTO has not demonstrated that Zuckerman does so), the rejection of claims 19 and 20 for obviousness over Gao in view of Zuckerman is improper and should be withdrawn.

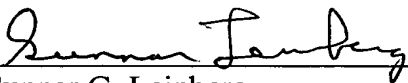
The Office has objected to claims 38, 40, and 42 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the foregoing remarks with respect to independent claims 1, 13, and 25, from which 38, 40, and 42 depend, no further amendment is believed to be necessary and these claims are

believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objection to claims 38, 40, and 42.

In view of all of the foregoing, applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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